

Applicant: Johann ENGELHARDT et al.  
Serial No.: unknown (371 Based on PCT/DE99/00062)  
Preliminary Amendment  
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At page 2, line 17, please delete "of this kind is";

At page 4, line 29, please delete "which follow Claim 1";

At page 5, line 4, please delete "The drawings show";

At page 5, line 5 (blank line), please insert:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The subject matter of the invention is described with reference to the embodiments shown in the drawings.--;

At page 5, line 23 (blank line), please insert the centered heading --DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--;

At page 6, after line 27, please insert the following new paragraph:

--The invention has been described in detail with particular reference to certain preferred embodiments thereof, but it will be understood that variations and modifications can be effected within the spirit and scope of the invention.--;

At page 8, line 1, please delete "Patent Claims" and insert --What is claimed is:--;

*IN THE CLAIMS:*

Please cancel claim 1-16 and add the following new claims 17-39:

--17. An optical arrangement in an illumination beam path of a confocal laser microscope, said optical arrangement comprising an illumination optical system arranged in said illumination beam path for modifying an illumination diameter of an illumination beam of said microscope.